# The National Tribune.

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As THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE goes to press -7:30 Monday evening—the sad news comes of Senator Hanna's death. The Nation has lost one of its very ablest and best men.

AMID the turmoil of sinking battleships and bombarded forts, we have, somehow, lost knowledge of the Czarina's ear-ache.

As ADMIRAL ALEXIEFF has opened the war with Japan by losing 11 armed ships, the Czar has made him Commander-iu-Chief not only of the navy but of the army.

THE lack of proper education in Cuba is painfully apparent. For example: those Cubans who threw dirt at the United States flag should have known that they hadn't the privileges of United States Senators.

Russia's defensive strength has hitherto been in the vastness and poverty of her territory. An invading army wore and starved itself out before it could reach any vital point. The Japanese will not have to do this. They are fighting for something very close at hand, and very distant from Russia, so they will be a short arm's length while Russia will be beyond the reach of her finger-tips.

WHENEVED they get their innings, and they are sure to get them sooner or later, business laws are more merciless and drastic than those on the statute books. For example: Mr. Chas Schwab, who last year was one of the Napoleons of finance, has just had to consent to giving up several million dollars of "real money," besides \$60,000,000 worth of more or less valuable stock, and will have to go into the concern as a plain, common man, sharing equally with the other men who have money in the concern. Mr. Schwab is a type of a number of men who have gone through a similar experience.

QUITE a lively contest is going on with reference to the Pension Agency at Louisville. Ex-Representative Irwin, of Louisville, is a strong candidate, and has filed a stack of indersements in his own behalf. Patrick H. Darby, of Princeton, is another applicant, and a third is Maj. W. M. Collier, whe is a son of the late Pension Agent. Chairman John W. Yerkes is said to be figuring on a man who will help him personally, belonging neither the Representative Hunter nor Ex-Governos Bradley factions. It is asserted that Gen. Basil Duke has a call on the office, which the President once tendered him, and that he can name the successful man.

GOV. LAFOLLETTE, of Wisconsin, is mak ing a very bitter warfare upon Repre sentative Babcock of that State, who, in addition to being a most admirable allaround Congressman, is a firm and reliable friend of the veterans. Without any blowing of trumpets, Representative Babcock has been constant and faithful in his service to the old soldiers, and has been of the most decided help to them. It will be a misfortune to all if Gov. LaFollette's tactics prevail, and Mr. Babcock should be defeated. There is only a chance of this however, so the comrades should rally to his assistance and put his success beyond

THE ELECTION of Isidor Rayner as Sen ator from Maryland effectually disposes of Senator Gorman's leadership, more's the pity. From the moment that Senator Gor man started out to be a leader and the ris ing man in the Democratic party, he began to guess wreng, and he kept making worse guesses every time. His first bad break was his not knowing that the people of the South were in favor of the Panama Canal; the next was that the National campaign could be run on the denunciation of the negro, and the last was in his choice of a Senator as his colleague from Maryland. His choice was Barnard Carter, who was not even a good third in the race, being led by Ex-Governor J. Walter Smith, who was in turn led by Rayner, the successful candidate. It looks as if Gorman's leadership would have to go into dry-dock for complete overhauling and repairs, lasting over the coming campaign.

## JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

The conflict between Japan and Russia came at last and came with Japan taking a sharp initiative that startled the world. Her fleet immediately attacked the Russians, and up to date it is reported that the Russians have lost 11 armored ships, two of which were battleships. The total may not be so large as this, but it is certainly large enough to greatly cripple Russia, if not lose her the command of the sea, which is most important. The Russians claim that they were taken unawares, Czarina's ear-ache. They knew as well as the Jape that war was imminent, and they should have been ready for it. The probability now is that Russia is on the brink of an administrative breakdown such as size experienced in the Crimean War, when sive as shown to be a great big, clumsy shulk, notice and pensity if in the extremities. One phase of this is that she has been holding out that she had 250,000 man in the far East, whereas it begins to be gaperant that she may not have more than 100,000, and these men fought for it.

WEXTIPLIOITY OF BILLS.

The reis great danger in the multiplicity of pension bills being introduced into Consideration of these bills.

There is great danger in the multiplicity of pension bills being introduced into Consideration in the service of their country, these whom this bill is intended to benefine a pension in the service of their country, these whom this bill is intended to benefine a pension in the service of their country, there was shown to be a great big, clumsy of pension bills being introduced into Consideration in the service of the strengthen that the has been been belding out that she had 250,000 man in the far East, whereas it begins to be specified at the she way not have more than 100,000, and the benefine in the company streets at the country work among those hickory approach of these whom this bill is intended to benefine in the service of their country.

It is astonishing how soon the Senate seed and phyce "Aint I giand be service pension bill." How the pension bills had been at a life of the pension bills a bonder to the providence (R. I.)

It is astonishing how soon the Senate seed and pension believe and the pension bills a bonder to the country. It is not the pension bills a bonder to the bonder to the bond appear to the the pension bills a bonder to the pension bil the Japs that war was imminent, and they

### THE LIMIT OF COST OF THE SERVICE PENSION.

The most exaggerated and alarming statements as to the probable cost of the Service Pension Bill are being sent broadcast over the country with the purpose of exciting opposition to the passage of that measure. While it is impossible to tell exactly what it will cost, yet we can know the very limit of its cost, and that limit is far below the figures that have been boldly asserted. Some newspapers have published the annual expense as high as \$200,000,000, while the lowest of them have not estimated under \$60,000,000. Even this latter figure can be shown to be a very great exaggeration. We can well begin by taking the first great factor in the calculation, that of raising those on the pension roll at present below \$12 per month, to that figure.

The following table shows the number of pensioners under the old law at ratings below \$12 per month, and the additional cost to the Government of raising them al

INVALIDS.				
Monthly Rate.	No.	Present Annual Cost	Additional Annual Cost under proposed law.	
\$2.00	4	\$96,00	\$480.00	
3.00	1	36.00	108.00	
4.00	8 7	384.00	768.00	
5.00		420.00	588.00	
6.00	37,410	2,693,520.00	2,693,520.00	
6.25	14	1,050.00	966.00	
6.37 1-2	2	153.00	135.00	
6.75	1	81.00	63.00	
7.00	37	3,108.00	2,220.00	
7.50	236	21,240.00	12,744.00 -	
7.75	4	372.00	204.00	
8.00	34,156	3,278,976.00	1,639,488.00	
8.25	8	792.00	360.00	
8.50	306	31,212.00	12,852.00	
8.62 1-2	1	103.50	40.50	
8.75	5	525.00	195.00	
9.00	212	22,896.00	7,632.00	
9.25	5	555.00	165.00	
9.50	16	1,824.00	480.00	
9.75	5	585.00	135.00	
10.00	23,739	2,848,680.00	569,736.00	
10.20	1	122.40	21.60	
10.25	11	1,353.00	231.00	
10.50	14	1,764.00	242.00	
10.62 1-2	1	127.50	16.50	
10.75	2	258.00	30.00	
11.00	51	6,732,00	612.00	
11.25	165	22,275.00	1,485.00	
11.33 1-3	3	408.00	24.00	
11.50	14	1,932.00	84.00	
11.75	ii	1,551.00	33.00	
	96,450	8,943,131.40	4,945,658.60	

\$8.00	114	\$10,944.00	\$5,472.00
10.00		480.00	96.00
	118	11,424.00	5,568.00

The following table shows the number of pensioners under the Act of June 27, 1800, at ratings below \$12 per month, and the additional cost to the Government of raising them all to that rating:

Ionthly Rate.	No.	Present Annual Cost	Additional Annual Cost under proposed law.
\$6.00 7.00 7.50 8.00 9.50 10.00 11.50	87,984 2 4 141,203 53,744 1 282,939	\$0,334,848.00 168.00 360.00 13,555,488.00 114.00 6,449,280.00 138.00 26,340,306.00	\$6,334,848.00 120.00 216.00 6,777,744.00 30.00 1,289,856.00 6.00
		WIDOWS.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
\$8.00	50 1	\$4,800.00 120.00	\$2,400.00 24.00
	51	4,920.00	2,424.00
Total Invalid	Cost		\$35,209,871.4

This shows that the very limit of the expense of putting everyone at present on the roll below \$12 per month up to that figure, cannot cost more than \$19,356. 470.60. It will certainly cost a great deal less than that amount. If the age limit is made a part of the bill, it will cut off very many thousands who are still under 62, and this will reduce the cost by several millions of dollars. This item is so settled and determinate, that there can be no mistake about the matter, and all uncertainty is as to the amount of the reduction from the gross sum of \$19.856. 470,60, which figures up upon a study of the present pension roll.

The next item is as to the number of survivors of the war of the rebellion not now pensioned, but who will claim a pension under the act. There is the widest variety of estimates as to the number of these. The estimates range all the way from 100,000 to 250,000, with the authority of the Record and Pension Bureau of the War Department for there being this year 858,002 veterans alive. There were last year 703,456 veteraus on the pension roll. Deducting this number from the total number alive, would leave a total of 154,546.

If there are this number alive—which the best statisticians gravely doubt—and if all are 62 years old, were honorably discharged, and had each served 90 days or more in the war of the rebellion and should all claim their pensions, it would cost \$22,254,624. This, added to the above amount for those already on the pension roll, would make a total cost of the bill the first year \$41,611,094. It cannot possibly be any more than this unless the War Department and the Pension Bureau are grossly deceived as to the number of veterans yet alive, which is so improbable as to be hardly worth mentioning. The best opinion is that there are only 125,000 unpensioned veterans alive.

Now from this gross total of \$41,611,094 must be made a number of highlyimportant deductions. First, are the very many thousands who will be shut out the first year on account of being below the age limit, which it seems certain will be put in the bill. This item alone will reduce the sum total many millions. Next, there must be a number, quite large in the aggregate who have some defect in their discharges which will exclude them from the operations of the law. Thirdly, there are very many thousands of the survivors who are now in such comfortable circumstances that they will not apply for pensions. This will save the Government many millions, especially in the first years of the operation of the bill. A most important item is that it will save possibly \$2,000,000 in the cost of running the Pension Bureau. At present the Pension Bureau is expending from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 in fees for Examining Surgeons. As after the passage of the bill the only duties of such Surgeons will be to examine the very few who claim disabilities of service origin, and those who think that the disabilities for which they have been pensioned have been increased by age, the present enormous fees will be reduced to a few thousand dollars. The Pension Bureau is also spending from \$300,000 to \$500,000 a year for Special Examiners traveling agents. who go about the country investigating claims and the capacity of the claimant to perform manual labor, industriously gathering up neighborhood gossip as to his character, habits, etc., etc. These are paid, in addition to their salaries as clerks. \$3 a day and their traveling expenses. This will be rendered unnecessary by the passage of the law, and they can devote themselves to clerical duties inside the Pension Office, so that the efficiency of the Bureau will be increased, while its expenses will probably be cut down \$2,000,000 a year. Taking all these facts into consideration, it does not seem at all probable that the cost of the service pension the first year can be in excess of \$25,000,000. In all human probability it will be several millions under that.

The next startling fact is that the soldiers are dying at the rate of at least 50,000 a year. Fifty thousand pensioners at \$12 per month, or \$144 a year, is \$7.-200,000, which large sum will be wiped off the pension roll each year by that merciless retrencher of Government expenses-grim DEATH. There cannot be any further increase of the pension roll, because the material will be exhausted, and death will be at his swift work in the reduction of those already on the roll, carrying off every year a larger army than Sheridan had in the Valley, Grant at Vicksburg, or Rosecrans at Chickamauga and Stone River. Without any aid from the enemies of the pension roll, without any efforts on the part of narrow, prejudiced, and

so saved will be greatly increased by the rapid rise in the mortality rate of the aged The maximum of pension expenditures will be reached the first year that the law goes into operation, and thereafter pension expenditures will be reduced at a but this is as silly as the pretext of the rate appalling to every patriotic man who loves and honors the men whose courage the Government to pension the survivors

Remember, this is for the first year.

WARATIVE COMMENTS OF JAPAN AND

The Russian Empire has a total area in Europe and Asia of 8,660,395 square miles, or two and two-thirds that of the United States exclusive of Alaska. Japan has an area of 147,669 square miles, or somewhat less than the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan combined.

Russia has a population of 129,000,000, while Japan's population is 44,260,604, but Russia's population is thinly scattered ever her vast area, with the thickly-setfrom her Pacific coast. The bulk of the Russians are in Europe, while the Pacific coast which fronts toward Japan, is 6,000 miles away, over a desolate, wild, unsettled stretch of prairie connected by only one line of newly-constructed and very poorly-equipped railroad. A large portion of this population of Russia is still in a savage or semi-savage state, and is of little avail in strengthening the Empire. The Russians in Europe, who are the best part of the people, are probably a century behind the rest of Europe in most things relating to material advancement. On the other hand, Japan's 44,000,000 people are crowded into a very compact territory, situated within easy reach of the seat of war. They are all active, industrious, skillful people, highly civilized according to the Asiatic idea of civilization. Their value as fighting men in conflict with Europeans remains to be determined. They are unquestionably the best of the yellow men, whereas the Russiaus are the poorest of the white men.

The Russians have in their active army 38,412 officers and 1,076,458 men, with 173,400 horses and 320 guns. They have, of course, almost limitless resources to back up this active army, and on paper can put something like 12,000,000 men in the field. The difficulty will be, however, to get any great portion of this immense horde to the seat of war, and to supply them after they are there.

The last public statement gave Japan an active army of 8,046 officers and 158,214 men, with about 300,000 reserves, more or less drilled and ready for duty. These, however, are all right at hand, and can easily be thrown into Korea and Manchuria, if Japan secures the control of the ea. This makes the relative strength of of the navies of the first importance.

The last statement gives the following s the number of Russia's effective ships n the Baltic Sea and elsewhere: Battleships ...... 12

orpedo gunboats ..... ab-marines ..... 2

Besides these she has nine battleships, our gunboats and six destroyers in the Mack Sea, where it is a question if they

rill be allowed to come out. The lastistatement gives the Japanese

avy as follows: Sattleships ...... . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Japan has the great advantage, however, of having all her ships at home and under hand; to concentrate upon that portion of the Russian fleet in Asiatic waters.

#### HONESTY THE BULE. The New York World says:

"That many of the 90-days men never heard 'a shot fired in anger' is not the chief objection to a service pension. That his military record is a positive advantage to a veteran in the public service, and elsewhere no disadvantage, is reason enough for opposing the service pension, but it is not the weightiest reason, "Has not our country scandals enough

needing a remedy, abuses enough crying for reformation, sufficient evil tendencies and malign policies demanding change without wasting millions of the people' money to buy the 'soldier vote?' This is as erroneous as a New York

paper almost invariably is in regard to pensions. While possibly some of the three-months men did not hear "shots fired in anger," very many thousands of them did hear a great many "shots fired in anger," and did extraordinary hard fighting.

There is to be no scandal connected with the service pension. It is honest payment for services rendered. It will go directly to the people who rendered the services, and not a dollar will stick to the hands of other persons. There has never been any real scandal connected with the disbursement of pensions. There have been the most frantic efforts to cause scandal, but iating failures for those who promulgated them. In all of the United States disbursements, there has been far less dishonesty and fraud in the pension expenditures than in any other.

THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH concludes an editorial as follows:

"The pension expenditures of the United States are now greater than the entire army budgets of either Germany or Russia. If this proposition were enacted into legislation our pension expenditure alone would exceed the whole army expenditure of any military empire of Europe, includ-ing standing armies of over half a million

This is simply untrue. The pension exceed or even approach the military expenditures of Russia or Germany, as the Dispatch will easily ascertain by examining any book of reference. Even if they did, that would have no bearing on the case, since the pension expenditures of the United States represent a longer service and aggregates of far harder fighting than all the European armies have done in nearly a century, More men were killed, wounded and disabled in our war than in over the porch, the apple trees clothed in all the wars of Europe since the battle of pink and white blooms, the hens cackling in the barnyard, their mothers and sisters Waterloo, or within the lifetime of any man now alive.

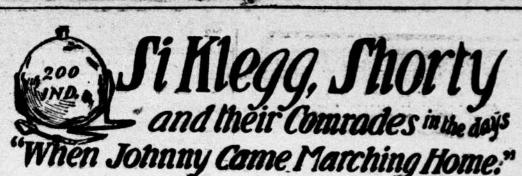
cruel Commissioners like Lochran and Evans, Death will "save the Treasury" PENNSYLVANIA "Grit," a paper pubevery year \$7,200,000 from the pension appropriations, and each year the amount lished at Williamsport, Pa., is out in a vicious editorial against the service pension bill, which it denounces with a plentiful in the world. lack of knowledge of the pension system "Drat the of the United States. It does not know that it has been the unbroken custom of rate appalling to every patriotic man who loves and honors the men whose courage and devotion saved the Union, and very gratifying to those who hated the cause for which those men fought, and the men who fought for it.

that it has been the unbroken custom of horns in Sherman's army can make."

"Same here," grumbled Lafe Wilson.

of all wars after the lapse of a number of which those men fought, and the men who fought for it.

Nance a week than loaf a single trick on years. This act of justice is now due the



COPYRIGHT, 1908, BY THE PUBLISHERS OF THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. tled portion on the other side of the world The Delightful Camps Around Raleigh-Dis- makes me mad all over that I've wasted

reasonable soldier could desire. They were far superior to any that the

centent of the Volunteers in Camp—march thing."

thing."

I tell myself I ought to be able to read

"I tell myself I ought as at home," Mont-

Not long was it possible for an Ameri-can volunteer to remain contented in any gomery Scruggs communed with the other loose as so many race-horses with the Capcamp, no matter how pleasant it might be. He was not, never could be made, a regular soldier, enlisted for a specified term, and anxious to spend that term as comfortably as possible. The volunteer had only enlisted to do a certain piece of work, and his dominant thought was to finish it up as quickly as possible, and get back. and his dominant thought was to finish it up as quickly as possible, and get back to more congenial pursuits and surroundings.

The camp was the regular soldier's home. It was merely the volunteer's temporary abiding place, and never could be proposed to appear anything else.

I want to get back home and see things good—for the South.

"Now, you bog-eating Hoosiers." shouted Maj. Bowersox, as he rode up to the head of the column, and the band parade. Why don't they let this job out to the Wilderness." "these Wolverines, Badgers, Buckeyes and Suckers say that they can outpassed be a content of the wilderness." I want to get back home and see they can outpassed be a content of the wilderness. porary abiding place, and never could be made to appear anything else.

The camps around Raleigh, N. C., had every comfort—luxuries even—that any I'd rather see one jury trial than all the parades between now and kingdom come."
"My mind ain't running on jury trials



men had previously known. The active- any more than on minded American volunteer, when he had Thompson to learn the great trade of war, bent all "There's a piece of calico up there that's his energies to it, and in time became past | been waiting for me ever since I enlisted. master of his profession. The art of camp-making was a great part of that trade, and every day he was in the army making was a great part of that trade, and every day he was in the army market will be a proceed ask. He'll get the quickest and willing to the second to accentuate.

"Never mind, boys; it's only 25 miles or so to Richmond," said Monty Scruggs ask. He'll get the quickest and willing. the volunteer's skill became more perfect est answers he ever got."
wonderful in it, as he did all the branches "Yes, and you'll be box of warfare. Therefore, the camps on Stone calico for the rest of your natural life, River, around Murfreesboro, were a vast improvement upon the rude, comfortless contrivances, months before, on the Ohio River, while the camps, months later, around Chattanooga, on the Tennessee, showed an immense advance over the the work of the seasoned and practiced other girls.

Stone River camps, and they all stood in nost disadvantageous comparison with veterans in the Spring of 1865, in the camps around Raleigh, on the Neuse. At last a point was reached where military nicety, the requirements of comfort and convenience, the suggestions of taste-

ful adornment could go no farther. Nobody could order anything more; nobody else worth having could be found in the country within transporting distance. Then a great lassitude seized everybody -officers and men-as the dark war-sky

began to rapidly clear up before the rising sun of peace. The spur of remembrance of the hard-ships and discomforts of the march through the Carolinas soon lost its sharp-

ness. The sun shone with insistent daily warmth that asserted there would never be more rain and cold. The mental attitude of the rebels was overwhelming that there would be no more war. The rebel President and the fragments of his Government were in flight, hotly pursued by our cavalry. Maj.-Gen. Sam Jones had just surrendered every thing in

these efforts have usually ended in humil- Florida, so that there was no haven in the Everglades for Jeff Davis to re-establish himself, and repeat the weary, har-assing Seminole War.

Mobile had fallen before Farragut and Gordon Granger, and Lieut.-Gen. Dick

Taylor, following Joe Johnston's example,

Bragg's men, Hood's men, Forrest's men, Morgan's men, Wheeler's men—al the horde of terrible enemies who had for four years bitterly defied the Government submissively to get their paroles, and be allowed to return to their homes, "not to be disturbed so long as they obeyed the laws of the land," according to the gen-erous, simple, but unmistakable terms al-

owed by Grant to Lee Then to the blueclad volunteers in the valley of the Neuse homes in the Northland began calling. Green fields in Ohio, Indi-ana, Michigan and Illinois, fields where big-eyed cattle pastured in lazy content, fields where the corn was shooting its wands of vivid green through the mellow soil, fields where the wheat was beginning to roll in verdant billows under every passing breeze-

What to those ardent youths, brimming camps in the whole world, compared to their homes, with the roses clambering business of the war was over, how tiresome the stapid routine of guard duty, drills and roll-call. A sight of the girls going to church would be worth more than all the dress parades and grand reviews

"Drat the bugle," growled Sol Haywood. "I'd rather hear our old rooster crow reveille than all the music the toot-

parades," Wales confes "Yes, and you'll be bound to buy he

laughed Monty. "Well, I don't think I could do any bet ter with my money," answered Wales, seriously. "She shall have every cent I can make, and the more I can give her the better I'll like it, for she is worth it." Nobody laughed at his seriousness, for

they all had similar thoughts in regard to "Well, I'm learning a good deal about dicine here, thanks to Dr. Cromi another reason than any of you. I don't expect to spend my life cutting off legs and arms, and dosing out blue mass and quinine. I want a little variety, and would like to see how a young lady's tongue looks, and count her pulse."
"Well, for my part, I'm dead sick of soldier-cooking," said Gid Mackall. "I've

et everything I could find, since we crossed the Ohio River, nigh three years ago, and I'd give all the best that I've tasted for a single plate of mother's pancakes and maple molasses, and them ain't the best things she does, by 40 rows of apple trees. You should just taste one of "The talk up at headquarters to-day,"

said Pete, who had just come off duty as Colonel's Orderly, "was that we might be sent to Mexico, to knock out the

"Well, if they want us to do that joblet, then start us off at once," said Wales Thompson, pulling out his tobacco pouch to fill his pipe. "Mexico will be a picnic after the Carolinas, and the French can't hold a candle to Joe Johnson's men as fighters. The sooner we start the sooner

"That's what it is," affirmed Monty, lis-"Something's up." Monty's prediction was right. Every

ear in camp had caught the signal, and knew that it imported something unusual. They were at once all out in their company streets, watching the officers burry-The Maj. Bowersox's headquarters.
The Major came out of the door, with a paper in his hand, to meet them.
"It has come at last, gentlemen," he

said, without waiting for them to form a line. "Marching orders! We start for the men issued three days' rations, which they will cook to-night, and have in their haversacks, ready to start at 7 o'clock sharp to-morrow. Light marching order, and everything in shape for fast going. We are going to show the rest of these fellows how we can march. They have been up better than they have ever done before. else shut up. We go by the way of Richmond, so there will be a chance to see something, including the Army of the

Regardless of the strict discipline which Maj. Bowersox had hitherto maintained in the camp of the 200th Ind., the officers threw their hats in the air, yelled like crazy men, and danced around, hugging one an-

Without waiting to find out what it ac-The Major ordered the Orderly-Ser. geants' call blown, and communicated the

news to them. They harried back to the Companies with the glad news.

Then the boys seemed to go crazy, and the quiet, orderly camp became a vocif-erous bedlam. Everybody wanted to fully recognized, and the party in power erons bedlam. Everybody wanted to build a bonfire in the company streets at held to a severe accountability for the way

The 200th Ind, had always been noted for its promptness in appearing in the road at the hour set for the march to begin, but it surpassed its long record this time. Before 7 o'clock every man belonging to it was in line in his company street, awaiting the bugle. The hospital had been emptied. An expected battle could not have brought about more rapid convalescence of the patients.

At the first notes of the bugle the companies rushed onto the parade ground, the battalion line was instantly formed, and as instantly started off to take its place at the head of the column upon the main road leading northward.

The long race of the corps of Sherman's

The long race of the corps of Sherman's Army for Washington, 300 miles away,

was begun.

The corps which had marched thousands of miles, and were justly boastful of their loose as so many race-horses with the Capital of the Nation and HOME for their

fairly good-for the South.

they can outmarch you. Let's see who'll shake hands with President Johnson first." A throat-splitting yell of complete confidence in themselves answered this chal-

There was no abatement of the long, swift stride, which they had been practicing for three years until they halted for the night on the banks of Tar River, 19 miles away.

"Very good day's work for a starter," commented Maj. Bowersox, as they went into camp. Don't think anybody's done any better. To-morrow we must stretch out a little more, though."

They swung out quite as promptly the next morning, and when night came on were on Flat Creek, near Williamsborough, having marched 21 miles.

The third day there was a bitter, impatient tangle with the other commands for the right of way over Roanoke River, and when they got across night had come as

when they got across night had come on and they had only marched 17 miles, but the chafing delay had made the men more tired than if they had marched 10 miles The fourth day they marched and crossed the Meherrin River, 21 miles awas, and began to realize that they were extering the Army of the Potomac's territory, from the wreck of houses and fields.

from the far-reaching cavalry raids. The next day was another to ilsome wrangle for the right of way with eager competitors, much swearing, much ill-natured waiting, starting and halting, and the march ended on the banks of the Notto-way River, 17 miles away.

Every mile now the country became more desolated. They were coming close to the scene of the nine-months of deadly struggle between 125,000 men of Grant's army, and the 85,000 of Lee's, and the ruined buildings, the fallen and charred trees, the low graves, the deeply-rutted reads and the riflepits, breastworks and battery emplacements in every direction told eloquently how bitter and obstinate the struggle had been.

It was hard marching over the warworn roads; there were mistakes as to

worn roads; there were mistakes as to whither the tangle of ways led, and when night came at Blacks and Whites's Station, on the savagely-contested South Side Railroad, they were disappointed to find they had only made 15 miles. But the others labored with the same troubles, and had done no better.

It was a depressing supper they had that evening in that ruined land, where war's wild work showed its fearful work n desolation which the green of springtime only seemed to accentuate.

day we'll see sights that'll make you for get all this." (To be continued.) A MODEL DOCUMENT.

A model document in its way is the cir cular letter sent by Comrade A. W. Smith Commander of the Department of Kansas, G. A. R., to each of the Post Command. ers, congratulating them upon their elections, reminding them that it means the confidence of their comrades and in creased opportunities for usefulness, and pointing out the objects and aims for which the Order should work. He says that the work of the Grand Army is not completed, and never can be until the last veteran has passed from earth to the "happy camping-ground" on the other side of the Great Divide. Patriotism and love of Old Glory are more necessary now than in the '60's. United action is urged with regard to the service-pension bill, and a history given of the efforts to have the veterans preference law in the State made vital. The Judge-Advocate of the Department, Comrade Thomas Dever, proceeded to test the laws by a case in which he was a party, where he had been denied appointment as City Attorney by the Mayor and Council of Junction City. In the Common Pleas Court the case was decided against him, but he at great expease carried this to the Supreme Court, where he hopes to have a decision as to the strength and effect of the laws. He we'll get through. If we have to go, I took up another case even stronger than hope we'll start to-morrow. Hello, what's his own, from Topeka, where Comrade that bugle for? It's officer's call. It is, H. K. Goodrich, of Lincoln Post, an expert electrical engineer, was displaced in favor of a young civilian. Both these cases have been presented in the best manner to the Supreme Court, and Commander Smith hopes for a decision in favthe first time that it has been tested in the Department of Kansas. The letter closes with a strong appeal for vigorous

SENATOR CLARK (Ark.) gives us hopes of a real "New South." His speech in support of the Panama Canal reaches a high, commonsense tone, gratifyingly distinct from the petty carping of many of his colleagues. He recognizes that Coing some tall bragging about the legs of lombia's course toward the United States has been simply despicable, and would not be endured by any power in the world. It is singular that President Roosevelt stood it as long as he did. The Senator recognizes that the canal ought to be built, that the necessities of the country demand it, that this is an opportunity which must be improved, and that the Colombians barred themselves from the game by their inexcusable misconduct. All the while the Senator reserves to himself the tually meant, the boys began to do the same, that they "might not lose the dues right of criticising the Administration for the way in which it has done things that it should do. This it seems to us is eminently the true ground for any opposing party. That is, the need of carrying out

recruiting for every Post.